

## Message Text

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ACTION ORM-02

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 DHA-02 EUR-12 NEA-10 NSA-01  
CIAE-00 INR-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /049 W  
-----182005 098805 /47  
R 181749Z FEB 77  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5340

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 GENEVA 1235

EO 11652: NA  
TAGS: SREF  
SUBJ: UIA PROPOSED PROGRAM FOR REFUGEES EX-USSR AND  
OTHER EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES FOR CY 1977

REF: STATE 7353

1. MISOFF CHARLES R. STEIN VISITED ISRAEL FEBRUARY  
4-9 TO DISCUSS UIA PROPOSAL FOR 1977. PERSONS INCLUDED  
IN DISCUSSIONS WERE AS FOLLOWS: MESSRS. CHINITZ, KATZ,  
AND FEINSTEIN OF UIA, JERUSALEM, AND S. RALBAG, DEPUTY  
DIRECTOR GENERAL OF JEWISH AGENCY TREASURY DEPARTMENT,  
B. SILBERMANN, JEWISH AGENCY TREASURY DEPARTMENT AND  
Y. DOMINITZ, DIRECTOR GENERAL JEWISH AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
OF IMMIGRATION AND ABSORPTION.

2. BEFORE DISCUSSIONS BEGAN, JAI PERSONNEL POINTED OUT  
THAT PROPOSAL HELD BY STEIN HAD BEEN AMENDED TO SHOW  
THAT PROGRAM A-4 WOULD DRAW 1.5 MILLION DOLLARS FROM  
GRANT (MINUS \$500,000) AND PROGRAM A-6 WOULD REQUIRE  
1.25 MILLION DOLLARS (PLUS \$500,000). JAI EXPLAINED  
TO SATISFACTION OF MISOFF THAT THE EARLIER FIGURES  
HAD BEEN ENTERED DUE TO CLERICAL ERROR.

A. PROGRAM A-1. THIS PROGRAM CONTINUES AS IN THE  
PREVIOUS YEAR. REQUIREMENT IS BASED ON MOVING 6,500  
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REFUGEES IN 1977. HOWEVER, BASED ON THE NOVEMBER/  
DECEMBER MOVEMENTS, THIS ESTIMATE MAY BE LOW IF THE  
TREND CONTINUES.

B. PROGRAM A-2. THIS PROGRAM IS ALSO A STRAIGHT  
CONTINUATION OF PREVIOUS ACTIVITIES, AND MISOFF  
WAS SATISFIED THAT THE ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES ARE BASED

ON A REALISTIC EXPECTATION OF INFLUX. THE INCREASED BUDGET IS BASED ON THE INCLUSION OF 1,300 ROMANIAN REFUGEES, WHO MAY NOW BE HANDLED UNDER THIS GRANT.

C. PROGRAM A-3. THE SLIGHT INCREASE IN THIS PROGRAM CAUSED BY THE ADDITION OF YOUTHS FROM COUNTRIES OTHER THAN THE SOVIET UNION.

D. A-4. AFTER EXPLANATION OF THE CORRECTED FINANCIAL REQUIREMENT, PROGRAM APPEARED TO BE SATISFACTORY.

E. PROGRAM A-5. THE SCALE OF ASSISTANCE SHOWN ON PAGE 5 OF UIA PROPOSAL APPEARS SUFFICIENTLY MODEST TO WARRANT APPROVAL OF THIS PROGRAM.

F. PROGRAM A-6. INCREASED REQUIREMENT FOR SCHOLARSHIPS IS BASED ON A 50 PERCENT INCREASE IN TUITION RATES AT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING IN ISRAEL.

G. PROGRAMS A-7 AND A-8. THESE PROGRAMS ARE BEING CONDUCTED AS A STRAIGHT CONTINUATION OF LAST YEAR'S PROGRAMS. IN THE PAST THERE HAD BEEN SOME CONFUSION AS TO WHO RECEIVED BENEFITS UNDER A-7 AND WHO UNDER A-8, AS THE LINE BETWEEN THE TWO WAS NOT DRAWN CLEARLY. JAI AND UIA HAVE NOW CLEARED UP THEIR DEFINITIONS FOR THESE TWO PROGRAMS, AND THEY ARE CONSIDERED SATISFACTORY.

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3. FROM THE ABOVE, IT CAN BE SEEN THAT THERE WERE A MINIMUM OF DIFFICULTIES IN ACCEPTING UIA-JAI EXPLANATIONS FOR THEIR PROGRAMS FOR 1977. THIS IS IN CONTRAST TO LAST YEAR'S SIMILAR DISCUSSION WHICH LEAD TO A MASSIVE REDEFINITION OF THE PROGRAMS AND A REDUCTION FROM SOME 15 TO THE PRESENT EIGHT. IN DISCUSSIONS WITH UIA, MISOFF LEARNED OF OTHER PROBLEMS CONCERNING THE GRANT WHICH ARE HEREWITH DISCUSSED FOR DEPARTMENT'S CONSIDERATION:

A. IN ADDITION TO HOLDING DEDICATION CEREMONIES WHEREBY PERMANENT PLAQUES ARE INSTALLED ON BUILDINGS CONSTRUCTED WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF U.S. GRANT FUNDS, UIA IS REQUIRED UNDER GRANT TO SEND OUT LETTERS TO RECIPIENTS OF ASSISTANCE IN THE AREAS OF RENTAL APARTMENTS, EDUCATION AND TRAINING. THIS IS THREE-LANGUAGE LETTER (HEBREW, ENGLISH, RUSSIAN) WHICH GOES OUT TO PERSONS FROM THE JEWISH AGENCY

AFTER ASSISTANCE HAS BEEN GIVEN. DEPARTMENT  
MAY RECALL THE ADVERSE REACTION EXPERIENCED BY  
PREVIOUS EXERCISE OF SENDING OUT FANCY CERTI-  
FICATES WHICH LED TO FURTHER DEMANDS ON PART  
OF RECIPIENTS ON BASIS THAT CERTAIN THINGS HAD  
BEEN PROMISED AND PAID FOR BY US GOVERNMENT AND  
REFUGEES INSISTED ON RECEIVING THEM AGAIN.  
UIA STRONGLY BELIEVES THAT NO BENEFIT IS GAINED  
BY CONTINUING TO SEND OUT THE LETTERS, THE COST  
OF WHICH, WHILE NOT EXHORBITANT, IS STILL ABOUT  
\$7,500 PER ANNUM FOR PREPARATION, PRINTING AND  
MAILING. MISOFF SPOT-CHECKED THE VALUE OF THESE  
LETTERS WITH RECIPIENTS AND FOUND THAT MOST OF THEM  
HAD SIMPLY THROWN THEM AWAY. UNLESS THERE ARE OVER-  
RIDING CONSIDERATIONS, IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE  
REQUIREMENT FOR THESE LETTERS BE DELETED FROM  
THE GRANT.  
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INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 DHA-02 EUR-12 NEA-10 NSA-01  
CIAE-00 INR-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /049 W  
-----182007 098696 /47

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B. THE REQUIREMENT OUTLINED IN INTRODUCTION TO  
THE GRANT PROPOSAL FOR USE OF 1977 GRANT FUNDS  
TO COVER EXPENSES INCURRED IN 1976 WAS EXPLAINED  
BY UIA AS A CASH FLOW PROBLEM. IT APPEARS THAT  
FUNDS FOR VARIOUS PROGRAMS ARE NOT FORTHCOMING  
AS FREELY AS THEY HAVE BEEN IN PREVIOUS YEARS  
AND IT WAS THEREFORE NECESSARY FOR JAI TO USE  
ALL FUNDS WHEN AND AS THEY BECAME AVAILABLE.

JAI IS NOW IN A POSITION TO REQUEST UP TO  
FIVE MILLION DOLLARS BASED ON PROGRAM ACTIVITY  
FOR WHICH DOCUMENTATION HAS ALREADY BEEN PREPARED.  
IN ADDITION THEY WILL BE ABLE TO REQUEST UP  
TO THREE MILLION DOLLARS MORE BY THE END OF THE  
FIRST QUARTER OF 1977. THE AMOUNTS MENTIONED  
ABOVE ARE THE REQUESTS FOR THE SECOND HALF OF  
CALENDAR YEAR 1976 AND REGULAR EXPENDITURES  
AND ALLOWABLE PREPAYMENTS FOR THE FIRST QUARTER  
OF 1977. UIA IS THEREFORE ANXIOUS TO OBTAIN  
10 MILLION DOLLARS AS A FIRST INSTALLMENT FROM THE  
1977 ALLOCATION.

4. TRUST INFORMATION SUFFICIENT TO CONCLUDE GRANT  
AGREEMENT. CATTO

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** SREF, IS, XH, UIA  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009